

SIXTEEN LOCAL MINES CLOSED

Little Doing At Any of the Coal Camps of Two Counties Until the Railroad Washouts Are Fixed.

Following the washouts of tracks and bridges on the main line of the Denver and Rio Grande last Sunday and Monday by the floods from the Gooseberry reservoir not a coal mine in Carbon or Emery county is at this time working except Sunnyside. There are sixteen of them in all besides Sunnyside—Kenilworth, Black Hawk, Mohrland, Hiawatha, Panther, Ketchum, Standardville, Hains, Sierra, Castle Gate (two), Cameron, Scofield, Winter Quarters, Clear Creek and Utah Mine. The production of these properties combined runs at this time around eighteen thousand tons daily, not including that made into coke at Sunnyside.

At the time the washouts came there were a few railroad cars in the several camps, which were loaded and are now standing in the yards awaiting shipment. As soon as these go out and more cars come in such mines as can work will resume. The main line of the Denver and Rio Grande through Price River Canyon is the first to be looked after, which will give an outlet to all properties except Winter Quarters, Clear Creek, Utah Mine and Scofield. The branch road that reaches these latter four will practically have to be rebuilt from Cotton to Scofield.

Idle at the seventeen properties in Carbon and Emery counties are close to three thousand men, it is estimated. The American Fuel company at Newlen is working, but has an outlet only for such of its production as goes east. This is said to be limited, the great bulk of around twelve hundred tons daily coming to the west. At some of the properties a few men are given employment on the inside. But the number is small when compared with the number on the payrolls.

At Sunnyside there is no interruption of activities except in the matter of coke shipments out. All the coal here goes into coke and is being stored. There are sufficient railroad cars in the camp to transport the crushed coal to the coke ovens and from the latter to the dock for storing. Something like sixteen hundred men are at this time working at Sunnyside, a big force being employed on new improvements aside from the mines proper.

The men at Sierra, who last week went out on strike, returned to work last Friday and everything is serene at that camp. It is understood that the old wages and other conditions prevail in the mine. The men gained the point of being paid from the offices of the company, instead of at the store.

GLOOMY VIEW OF THE COAL SITUATION FOR THE WINTER

Salt Lake's Tribune believes, after talking with numerous coal operators of Wyoming and Utah that there will be a fuel famine in Utah this winter. Although cars and transportation facilities have been ample for several weeks, the coal mines in Utah have been unable to make any headway in caring for a mass of orders, because of a shortage of labor at the mines. In anticipation of difficulty in obtaining coal when needed, as in years gone by, practically all the bigger industries, as well as the home owners of this state, have been putting forth every possible effort during the past two months to obtain supply of storage coal. In the case of some of the domestic users the attempt has been reasonably successful, but the majority of them, as well as practically all the big industries, have been unable to make any headway.

Practically all the operators in the Utah and Wyoming fields have been sparing no effort, and have not been very sparing in expense, in an effort to obtain men to dig coal and assist in mining operations. In many instances, the operators assert that a large percentage of miners whom they had considered steady and reliable have disappeared. Now men are being employed and sent to the mines as rapidly as they can be obtained. Some of those going to the "furnace" variety. They remain at work until after one or two paydays and then they, too, disappear.

In an effort to overcome the handicap under which they are operating, the producers have granted substantial increases in wages during the last few months, which makes it possible for the miners to draw from two hundred to two hundred and fifty dollars in pay envelopes each month. But so far the labor shortage has not been overcome in the Utah coal fields and the operators admit that the fuel outlook for the coming winter is anything but encouraging.

With reference to the expense incurred in attempting to obtain laborers at the mines, one operator is authority for the statement that each man employed for the last few months has cost his company approximately a hundred and thirty dollars. In computing the cost he has taken into consideration the railroad fare of the new employee, the time lost by the

mine because of his desertion and of incidental expenses incurred at the mine. The shortage of cars last winter and spring is believed by some of the producers to have been largely responsible for disruption of the coal situation at the mines. When the men could work but two or three full days a week at the mines they were attracted by the offers of steady employment at high wages made by other industries.

Since then the demand for labor has increased, and unless some form of labor conservation can be evolved the coal operators and dealers see but little chance for averting a fuel famine in Utah this winter.

PRESIDENT WILSON IN FAVOR OF FIXING OF COAL PRICES

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 22.—President Wilson, has given his support to Senator Pomerenne's resolution to empower the government to fix coal prices.

The resolution proposes that for war purposes or other emergency the federal trade commission shall be authorized to fix coal prices and in event of disagreement with the operators the government shall take over and operate coal mines, with an arrangement for fixing compensation of the operators at a later date.

President Wilson, according to Senator Pomerenne, is "in full sympathy" with the objects of his resolution, believing the coal situation acute and prices far too high.

UTAH AND WYOMING COALMEN INTERESTED IN PROPOSITION

Western coal mine operators are interested in the proposition to give the government power to direct, if not control, the coal output of the country and its distribution. The general opinion is that for the present the Eastern anthracite mine operators are the more immediately affected, but there is a chance of a later application of the situation to more westerly locations. It is becoming recognized more and more that the coal situation, with decreasing number of miners, the increasing consumption and the steadily advancing prices of coal and mining machinery, is demanding something more than ordinary attention and grave fears are entertained for the coming winter. What a number of operators say, as well as a few railroad men, is given below. A. D. Peterson, general sales agent of Utah Fuel company, was among those interviewed recently on the subject.

Might Relieve Situation. "The idea of the government as I understand it is to secure a maximum production of coal, with an equitable distribution; to see that no one region is well supplied with coal when another is in need, to see that such conditions prevail that abnormally high prices can not obtain. It may be necessary to restrict consumption in certain lines of industry, perhaps in household consumption. When I was in San Francisco, I was told that the government was about to use the German ships there to bring coal from the Ladysmith and Wellington mines in British Columbia to supply the forts along the Pacific Coast. That would relieve the situation here somewhat, but not wholly."

J. A. Reeves, general freight agent of the Oregon Short Line, said: "It seems to me rather an Eastern proposition, and an attractive one at that. But the time may come when the question may be applied to this part of the country later on. It strikes me that if our coal companies can't get enough miners to supply the home demand, the government will have a job on its hands to find them." Other railroad officials expressed similar views, considering it rather an Atlantic seaboard proposition—for the present anyhow. Nothing to cause worry out here.

Hopes It Is True.

J. S. Critchlow, general sales agent of the United States Fuel company, expressed the wish that the government would pool the coal issues. "It would take a load off my shoulders," he said. "If given a Western application, the government would then do the distributing instead of us. That is no small chore. It would be a relief to be rid of it. However, I doubt whether a governmental distributing scheme would really make much difference. We draw the coal from the great industries are able to remain in operation, and the government would hardly do more than that. I am inclined to agree with Reeves that the coal pooling proposition is more of an Atlantic seaboard affair, to secure adequate production and adequate transportation from the Eastern coal mines. While its being put into force, but here may be doubted, there is little to consider."

"The government has called three times for bids for coal for the forts on San Francisco Bay, with no bidders. The producers are having troubles of their own in filling orders from regular customers, and are not hunting any more business, whether it be governmental or civilian. However, if the government can't get any coal through calling for bids, there is nothing to prevent it from coming and clearing all the coal it wants. This is war time, and emergencies may call for drastic action."

W. D. McLean, general sales agent of the Standard Fuel company, said: "I also agree with the Short Line peo-

ple about the coal pool suggested being rather an anthracite proposition, and for the present an Eastern question. We aim to keep our old time, regular customers supplied, and then divide up what is left among those consumers that are in the most need. Just how the government would find miners to work the mines to capacity, if we can't, is something interesting to consider."

Demanding Lower Bids.

ODDSEN, June 22.—Still unshaken by the prices demanded by local dealers for the winter's supply of coal for the public schools, the city board of education has deferred contracting for another week. Meantime the board will see what prices the Salt Lake City board obtains.

It is the opinion of board members that a profit of twenty-five cents a ton on coal is sufficient in view of the quantity the board will purchase. Bids to date quote prices which are said to mean a profit of thirty-five or forty cents a ton.

Shippers Pool Coal.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 22.—Under an agreement reached by shippers of bituminous coal to tide water, all bituminous will be pooled during the war at the ports of New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Hampton Roads to reduce the number of cars used and expedite deliveries at the water front.

AROUND THE COAL CAMPS: PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE

Development at Wattle will be considerably delayed because of the non-arrival of materials and machinery due to the railroad washouts.

Utah Power and Light company is building a power line from its station near Helper to Cannonville, which camp is to be electrified. Later work is to be begun on the line to Kenilworth.

Through its New York office, A. H. Cowie, vice president and general manager of Utah Fuel company at Salt Lake City, has been authorized to contribute five thousand dollars to the Utah Red Cross fund.

Demand for a million tons of coal in excess of the largest amount ever mined in Utah is to be made on the coal mines during the coming year by Intermountain and Pacific Coast industries and domestic consumers.

Government Mine Rescue Car No. 2 of the bureau of mines will be at Somerset, Colo., a Utah Fuel company camp from July 18th to July 27th, next. Instructions in mine rescue work are to be given during this period.

W. J. Kinwood, superintendent at Kenilworth, last Tuesday told The Sun that he would find something for his men to do pending the repairing of the railroad tracks through Price River Canyon. They will be employed in development work.

Independent Coal and Coke company, it is understood, will electrify everything at Kenilworth just as soon as Utah Power and Light company can construct a line from the vicinity of Panther to that camp. Steam power at the pumping plant at Spring Glen will be supplemented by electric pumps.

In an effort to determine the amount of coal Salt Lake City warehouse and wholesale dealers will need next year, a letter has been addressed to all of them by the Manufacturers' Association of Utah. Dealers are asked to promptly inform the association their estimated needs, as the state organization hopes to relieve the coal situation next year by having plenty on hand.

Salt Lake's city commission has authorized Commissioner Karl Scheld to confer with Attorney Frank Evans, author of the public utility bill introduced in the legislature two years ago, with a view of securing the services of Senator Evans to represent the city.

(Continued on page eight.)

INDIAN LAND SALES

Hundred and Fifty-Five Thousand Acres Sold At Provo.

PROVO, June 22.—Judge John McPhail and associates announced that a hundred and fifty-five thousand acres of Utah reservation lands had been sold at the conclusion of the sale this evening. The judge closed up his business in Provo and adjourned to open up again at Duchesne on July 23, where he will continue the sale and expects at the final close of business to have sold at least two hundred thousand acres.

The brief adjournment will give the purchasers a chance to inspect the land and plan to connect up and make additional purchases adjoining those already made. Judge McPhail also announced that the government will offer for sale three hundred and twenty acres of land at Duchesne. This land will be sold for city lots and the date of commencing the sale will also be July 23.

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TRANSFER
and DRAY.

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BUMPER FRUIT CROP

Best Quality Assured In All Sections If Given Attention.

Utah will have the bumper fruit yield of its history this season, according to opinions now expressed by experts. The quality, too, will be the very finest, if advice regarding the thinning out of the fruit on trees is heeded. "Now is the time, after the June droppings, to thin out the trees and by picking to get rid of the dwarfed and superfluous fruit," says State Agriculturalist A. J. Taylor. This should be done after the natural and normal dropping of the fruit, in order that a good quality yield will be insured.

R. T. Thurber, director of the food conservation and emergency committee of Salt Lake City, gives similar advice. He declares that reports from all over the state indicate the best fruit crop Utah has ever seen now that the period of danger from frost has safely passed. The fruit crop of Utah will be 100 per cent this year," says Thurber. All dwarfed and superfluous fruit, particularly apples and peaches, should be weeded out now.

BEST IN THE NATION

Such Is the Word That Comes As to the Crops of Utah.

The Sun Special Service. LEOHIAN, June 22.—Utah leads the United States in the condition of her crops this spring, according to information that has reached the Utah Agricultural college from the bureau of crop estimates, United States department of agriculture. Using the number one hundred to represent the average of crop conditions for the past ten years it is found that the conditions of crops in Utah is represented by the number 107.5. Nevada follows Utah closely, with 107.2. The lowest state is Florida with 70.8.

Crop conditions in the entire country are represented by the number 94.2. This is 13.3 per cent below the average for the past ten years and 2.3 per cent below crop conditions for the same date last year. The above figures reflect the excellent agricultural organization possessed by Utah. Acting under the leadership of the state's agricultural school, farmers of Utah have been able to so improve farming conditions in the state that a crop much above the average can be expected this fall, while the country as a whole is harvesting only 94.2 per cent of its average crop.

STAMPEDE OF BEAVER NOW BREAKING INTO GOOD ONE

Word was received in Salt Lake City last Saturday from R. F. Caffey, manager of the Stampede Mines company, that the miners are now breaking three to five tons of ore a day. The Stampede is located in the south end of Mineral Mountain Range and near the main county road from Midford to Helper City. During the progress of its development work last winter and this spring it extracted considerable high grade shipping ore. Numerous persons in Carbon county are interested in Stampede.

TO THE PUBLIC.

"I have been using Chamberlain's Tablets for indigestion for the past six months, and it affords me pleasure to say I have never used a remedy that did me so much good."—Mrs. C. E. Reilly, Union, N. Y. Chamberlain's Tablets are obtainable everywhere.—Adv.

Try The Sun for your job work.

NOTICE TO WATER USERS.—State Engineer's Office, Salt Lake City, Utah, June 1, 1917. Notice is hereby given that Neal Hanks, whose postoffice address is Price, Utah, has made application in accordance with the provisions of the Compiled Laws of Utah, 1907, as amended by the Session Laws of Utah, 1909, 1911 and 1915, to appropriate one-tenth (1/10) of a cubic-foot of water per second from small springs and seeps in Carbon county, Utah. Said water issues at a point which lies 1400 feet west and 1200 feet south of the northeast corner of Sec. 26, Twp. 12 South, Range 14 East, Salt Lake base and meridian. The water will be used at its point of issuance from January 1st to December 31st, inclusive of each year, for stock watering purposes. This application is designated in the state engineer's office as No. 7243. All protests against the granting of said application, stating the reasons therefor, must be made by an affidavit in duplicate, accompanied by a fee of \$2.50, and filed in this office within thirty (30) days after the completion of the publication of this notice. G. F. McGONAGLE, State Engineer.

Date of first publication June 8, 1917; date of completion of publication July 9, 1917.

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That Snappy Appearance

Perhaps you have always thought you had to pay a tailor thirty-five or forty dollars for a suit that carried a snappy appearance. That's a great mistake.

Our "snappy" suits—\$15.00 to \$25.00—are in many nobby patterns, and all of the different shades to select from.

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Wasatch Stores Co.

Stores at Sunnyside, Winter Quarters, Clear Creek and Castle Gate, Utah.

UTAH VITALLY INTERESTED IN THIS APPROPRIATION BILL.

One of the most important of the appropriation bills now before congress, and in which Utah is vitally interested, according to M. A. Carlson, in charge of the cereal investigation of the department of agriculture, who was last week in this state from Washington, D. C., is that which, if it passes, will provide funds for an investigation of plant disease and the eradication of smut in wheat. With the eradication of smut in wheat, Carlson declares, the wheat production of the country may be increased approximately 75,000,000 bushels.

Finish the edge of the collar with a velvet cord and make large tassels of the same to weight the corners of the collar in front.

"Old High Cost of Living" has nothing over "High Cost of Living" thinks Moab's Independent. There are certain places in this country where you pay a good big American for a room without a chair, a water pitcher and barren walls. Plenty of noise to lull you to sleep. Good advice is to carry your blankets.

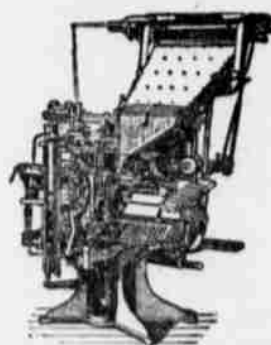
There is talk of the Utah Fuel and Light company making over to take over the municipal plant at Green River and running it that a proposition for installing a water system may accompany same. The presence of the company's engineers in the field is color to the story.

Lattice stitching is largely out of fashion.

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